From: dpcurator@aol.com
To: Kelley, Craig
Subject: Resolution regarding Israel
Date: Thursday, April 19, 2018 1:52:23 PM

Dear Councilor Kelley,

I am a former resident of Cambridge (Concord Ave at the Craigie intersection) and have always held my former home in high esteem. Thus, I was extremely concerned and dismayed to learn recently that the City Council was even considering a vote which would unfairly condemn Israel.

Israel is a multi-racial, multi-religious, pluralist democracy which at its rebirth in 1947 agreed to the creation of a neighboring Arab state for a people who had never had an independent country of their own. But while the Jews of Israel threw off the yoke of British occupation and the U.N. mandated a two-state solution, their Arab neighbors rejected that two-state solution and instead pursued the goal of eradicating the state of their Jewish neighbors.

Israel has her flaws, but has made numerous offers of peace including a state for Palestinians, only to have those offers (most notably one endorsed by President Clinton) rejected out of hand and responded to with waves of terrorism killing hundreds of Israeli civilians.

There is still hope that the Palestinian people will find leadership that will embrace the path to peace. However, that path to peace will be undermined by efforts that demonize Israel and enable unchallenged, the worst behavior by the current leadership of the Palestinian people.

I am convinced that the City Council of Cambridge does not wish to undermine prospects for peace for the peoples of the region and will see the wisdom in avoiding one-sided partisan efforts to attack Israel.

Sincerely yours,

Jim Kaufman

Dedham, MA